

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A system for managing and implementing tests for electronic equipment comprising:
- a host device having a database containing selectable test options,
- a remote device to which information from the host device is downloaded, said information comprising at least one test selection, said remote device being capable of
- 10 implementing a test protocol corresponding to said test selection by interfacing with and controlling testing equipment.
2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the host device further comprises a database containing selectable identifiers for electronic equipment, and
- 15 wherein said information further comprises at least one equipment selection.
3. The system according to claim 2, wherein said host device further comprises a graphic user interface module which allows a user to interface with said databases and to select from said identifiers for electronic equipment and said test options.
- 20 4. The system according to claim 3, wherein said host device further comprises a database containing selectable testing equipment options.
5. The system according to claim 2, further comprising translation
- 25 modules for translating testing steps into communication sequences specific to particular testing equipment.

6. The system according to claim 1, wherein said information is downloaded via a wired connection.

5 7. The system according to claim 1, wherein said information is downloaded via a wireless connection.

8. The system according to claim 1, wherein said information is downloaded via a computer network.

10 9. The system according to claim 1, wherein said remote device further comprises means for recording results from a test, and further comprising means for uploading said results to said host device.

15 10. The system according to claim 9, wherein said host device further comprises means for analyzing said results.

11. A method for managing and implementing tests for electronic equipment comprising the steps of:

20 selecting at least one test option using a host device,
downloading information comprising at least one test selection to a remote device,

having an operator interface said remote device to testing equipment to test particular electronic equipment.

25 12. The method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of:

selecting at least one identifier for electronic equipment using the host device, and wherein said information further comprises at least one electronic equipment selection.

5 13. The method according to claim 12, further comprising the steps of:
 recording the results of a test using the remote device,
 uploading the results of the test from the remote device to a central database.

10 14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the central database is
 contained on the host device.

 15. The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of:
 analyzing and managing the results of the test using the central database.

15 16. The method according to claim 13, wherein said results comprise a
 circuit identifier, a test time, a test set configuration, and a test step.

20 17. The method according to claim 11, further comprising the steps of:
 performing at least one subordinate test via said remote device in response to
 a failing result from a test step.

 18. The method according to claim 17, wherein results from the at least
 one subordinate test are used to determined a specific cause of failure.

25 19. The method according to claim 11, further comprising the steps of:
 providing an option to the operator when a failing result from a test step arises
 to continue or discontinue testing.

20. The method according to claim 19, wherein the step of providing an option to the operator further comprises providing an option to interface with said host device to complete testing.

5 21. The method according to claim 20, wherein the host device interfaces directly with the testing equipment.

22. A system for managing and implementing tests for electronic equipment comprising:

10 a device having a database containing selectable test options wherein selections can be made by a user via a user interface, said selections comprising at least one test selection, said device being capable of implementing a test protocol corresponding to said test selection by interfacing with and controlling testing equipment.

15 23. The system according to claim 22, wherein the device further comprises a database containing selectable identifiers for electronic equipment, and wherein said selections further comprise at least one equipment selection.

20 24. The system according to claim 23, wherein said device further comprises a graphic user interface module which allows a user to interface with said databases and to select from said identifiers for electronic equipment and said test options.

25 25. The system according to claim 24, wherein said device further comprises a database containing selectable testing equipment options.

26. The system according to claim 23, further comprising translation modules for translating testing steps into communication sequences specific to particular testing equipment.

5 27. The system according to claim 22, wherein said device is a host or server device capable of interfacing with testing equipment via wired, wireless, network, or internet connection.

10 28. The system according to claim 22, wherein said device is a remote device capable of interfacing with testing equipment via wired, wireless, network, or internet connection.

15 29. The system according to claim 22, wherein said device further comprises means for recording results from a test.

30. The system according to claim 29, wherein said device further comprises means for analyzing said results.

20 31. A method for managing and implementing tests for electronic equipment comprising the steps of:

 selecting at least one test option using a device,
 said test option comprising at least one test selection,
 interfacing said device to testing equipment to test particular electronic equipment.

25 32. The method according to claim 31, further comprising the step of:

selecting at least one identifier for electronic equipment using the device, and
selecting at least one electronic equipment selection.

5 33. The method according to claim 32, further comprising the steps of:
recording the results of a test using the device.

34. The method according to claim 32, further comprising the step of:
analyzing and managing the results of the test using a central database.

10 35. The method according to claim 32, wherein said results comprise a
circuit identifier, a test time, a test set configuration, and a test step.

15 36. The method according to claim 31, further comprising the steps of:
performing at least one subordinate test via said device in response to a failing
result from a test step.

37. The method according to claim 36, wherein results from the at least
one subordinate test are used to determined a specific cause of failure.

20 38. The method according to claim 31, further comprising the steps of:
providing an option to the operator when a failing result from a test step arises
to continue or discontinue testing.

25 39. The method according to claim 31, wherein the device is a host or
server device capable of interfacing with testing equipment via wired, wireless, network,
or internet connection..

internet connection.

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SECRET

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application of:)
Michael B. Petersen and Steven T. Robbins)
)
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING)
AND IMPLEMENTING ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT)
TESTS)

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING AND IMPLEMENTING ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT TESTS," the Specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified Specification, including the Claims, as amended by any Amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT international application having a filing date before that of the Application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

| | | | <u>Priority Claimed</u> | |
|-------------|---------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| <u>NONE</u> | | | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
| Number | Country | Day/Month/Year Filed | | |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

60/265,384
Application Number

January 30, 2001
Filing Date

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States Application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT International Application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the Claims of this Application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International Application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior Application and the national or PCT international filing date of this Application:

| <u>NONE</u> | | |
|--------------------|-------------|--------|
| Application Number | Filing Date | Status |

| <u>NONE</u> | | |
|--------------------|-------------|--------|
| Application Number | Filing Date | Status |

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this Application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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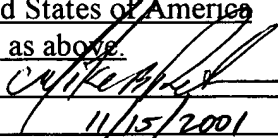
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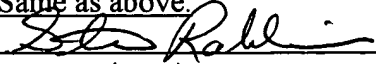
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I hereby declare all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the Application or any patent issued thereon.

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